December 4, 2021

To: Los Angeles County 2021 Redistricting Commission

Submitted online here: https://publiccomment.redistricting.lacounty.gov/

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for your extensive review of census data and potential Supervisorial Districts and for your openness to continued feedback on the many diverse communities of interest in Los Angeles County. I am writing to ask you to prioritize the unification of the San Fernando Valley in one district as you approach your final decision-making process.

The district I represent (Los Angeles City Council District Three/CD3) includes the communities of Canoga Park, Reseda, Winnetka, Tarzana, and Woodland Hills in the west San Fernando Valley. Various maps have linked this council district to far flung areas of the County or split these neighborhoods in unusual ways. While I appreciate that every option has competing interests and advantages, I want you to know how important it is for the entire San Fernando Valley to be united in one supervisorial district.

The challenges facing the San Fernando Valley include rising temperatures from climate change, groundwater contamination from industrial pollution, world famous traffic congestion with limited rapid transit options, and a growing inequality that has contributed to the homeless crisis. Each of these challenges requires partnership and collaboration with city, county, state and federal agencies. This area would be best served with one County Supervisor with whom my Valley City Council colleagues and I could work closely to address these urgent needs.

In CD3 and elsewhere the growth in the Latino population is significant and creating more opportunities for these communities to elect a candidate of their choice is important. There are several options available to better serve the San Fernando Valley's 1.8 million residents including the alternative map 078 which still creates two seats with over 50% Latino CVAP. The new map 086 from Commissioner Holtzman appears to unite the San Fernando Valley and some hillside communities south of Mulholland Drive, which also reaches some of these goals.

I share the concerns raised by VICA and others that Map B-2 splits the Valley into two districts with just over half the population from the San Fernando Valley in one district. Modified Map F-1 and Map G have a higher percentage of population from the San Fernando Valley. I note that Map F-1 would combine CD3's neighborhoods with the Westside coastal communities of Santa Monica, Redondo Beach and Palos Verdes which is 43 miles away and has a significantly different climate than this district. Map G appears much more compact and includes

communities with whom CD3 shares wildfire concerns and the connections of the 101 freeway without stretching so far to the south.

Thank you for your consideration of the needs of the San Fernando Valley as you finalize your maps and make decisions that will affect our communities for the next decade.

Sincerely,

BOB BLUMENFIELD Councilmember

City of Los Angeles

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